

FLEET Focus

Russell conducts combat sytems demonstration

By Ens. Jason Troupe
USS RUSSELL PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A group of Malaysian Naval Officers were treated to a combat systems demonstration aboard USS Russell (DDG 59) recently.

Capt. Hamid bin Yaakub, and six other senior officers from the Malaysian Armed Forces, along with their escorts, were welcomed aboard by Russell's Commanding Officer, Cmdr. R.W. Winsor, Jr.

Following introductions and a brief history of the ship, the group was taken to Russell's Combat Information Center. Once there, Combat Systems Officer, Lt. Cmdr. Leonard Santiago, gave a short presentation about Russell's Aegis Weapon System.

Russell's Combat Information Center Officer, Lt. j.g. Mike Conrady, explained Russell's tactical communications systems and inter-operability with other military services.

After the presentations, the guests

were shown operators' consoles where the various weapon and Link systems are operated.

Operations Specialist 3rd Class(SW) Jeremy Kenton, explained the operation of Link consoles, and his role and duties as one of Russell's tactical information co-ordinators.

"It was a tremendous pleasure to teach someone about the systems I operate," said Kenton.

"It was also really nice to be able to show them Link 11 in actual operation. I think that helped to answer many of their questions."

After the Combat Information Center demonstration the group was taken to the bridge, where they were given an overview of the ship's control and navigation.

Prior to departing, the tour group stopped on the Aft Vertical Launch System deck, where Russell's Executive Officer, Lt. Cmdr. James Vitha, discussed the weapons systems discussed earlier by Santiago.



Ens. Jason Troupe photo
Commanding Officer of USS Russell (DDG 59), Cmdr. R.W. Winsor, Jr, discusses details of Russell's combat systems with Capt. Hamid bin Yaakub of the Malaysian Navy.

Michigan in the spring time



ET3 (SS) Joseph Bastian photo
USS Michigan (SSBN 727) gold crew Sailor, HMC (SS/SW) Paul N. Broadus, married Darlene Broadway April 3. The two were married by the boat's commanding officer, Cmdr. (SS) Dietrich H. Kuhlmann II, in the crew's mess of Trident-class nuclear powered fleet ballistic missile submarine.

MK 48 torpedo production at IMA transitions from Sailor to contractor

By CW02 Joseph Bradner
FLEET LIAISON OFFICER

A long and proud era of sailors building MK 48 torpedoes for the Pacific Fleet officially ended on March 22 with a ceremony conducted at Naval Magazine Pearl Harbor, West Loch Branch.

Torpedo production at Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC), Division Keyport Submarine Torpedo Intermediate Maintenance Activity (IMA) was outsourced from active military to a contract personnel team, led by Raytheon.

Since 1972, Sailors have built and delivered more than 10,000 MK 48 torpedoes to Pacific Fleet submarines. During that 29-year period, the IMA achieved numerous awards and earned a reputation for outstanding torpedo reliability.

In the last five years, the IMA team was awarded the Commander, Submarine Force U. S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) Torpedo

Production Excellence Awards in 1996, 1997, 1999 and 2000.

Rear Adm. Albert H. Konetzni, COMSUBPAC, Rear Adm. Phil Davis, Program Executive Officer Submarines, Capt. Thomas F. Violette, Commander, NUWC Division Keyport, and Michael B. Charley, Director of Business Development for Raytheon, congratulated the Sailors, Department of Defense civilians and contractor personnel on the highly successful transition.

Konetzni noted that the effective outsourcing project was a result of "a good, straightforward, visionary effort." He further praised the outstanding efforts of the IMA sailors by stating, "quality, service, honesty and making sure we deliver a great product is what it is all about...this place (IMA) will continue to be a center of excellence."

Davis noted that the torpedo is "one of the most decisive weapons" in naval warfare in the last 100 years and recognized the

IMA Sailors for their efforts. He further continued stating, "the demonstrated performance of this IMA, as performed over the years, will continue to be the standard requirement of the industry contract team... My challenge to you all (Raytheon team) is to improve upon it."

Charley presented Davis with a letter of commitment, signed by Raytheon team personnel employed at the facility. The letter reaffirmed the contractor's commitment to the Navy for continued production of high quality torpedoes.

Manning shortfalls in the Torpedoman rating drove the decision to outsource production to the commercial industry. All but two of the 181 military billets that existed at the IMA will be reallocated to other critical areas.

NUWC Division Keyport will retain facility responsibility and contract administration, via an on-site officer-in-charge, a fleet liaison officer and a staff of civil service personnel.

Tucson mayor visits namesake submarine during trip to Pearl Harbor

By J02 Cori Rhea
COMSUBPAC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When the University of Arizona Wildcats met the defending national champion Michigan State Spartans first of two semi-final games of the NCAA's Final Four, Tucson, Ariz., Mayor Bob Walkup and his wife, Beth, were watching from their home away from home.

They were in the midst of the city's namesake attack submarine USS Tucson (SSN 770). Enjoying the game with the submarine's duty section in the crew's mess, the fans rooted for the 'home' team.

"This will be a memorable experience. I've never met a mayor before," said Electronic Technician 1st Class(SS) Marc Goulart. "Showing us that he can be the mayor of a huge city and actually sit down in our mess, watch our crew's television and eat some food with us means so much to the crew."

While the 'Cats' great performance didn't make for much of a competitive game, the mayor did spice the game up with a small wager with his counterpart, Mark Meadows, in East Lansing, Mich., the home city of the Spartans.

"If Michigan State wins the game, I am to send 25 pounds of El Charro Cafe's world famous chimmichanga's to East Lansing's mayor. However, if University of Arizona defeats, we will be receiving 25 pounds of homemade ice cream!"

As the Wildcats devoured the Spartans, the mayor's wife explained that El Charro Cafe is a restaurant in Tucson where Chimmichanga's were originated.

"There are only three El Charro Cafe's in Tucson (and in the world), and one here on the submarine," Said Walker. "It is so incredible to be watching the game in an El Charro Cafe, on a submarine in Hawaii," she laughed.

The crew's galley is named after the famous El Charro Cafés in Tucson.

Walkup was called by Rear Adm. Al Konetzni, Commander Submarine Force Pacific Fleet, to speak at the recent change of command ceremony onboard USS Tucson. The mayor thought it was a fine idea to fly out and have the chance to meet the Sailors face to face.

"We wanted to let not only the Sailors, but the people of Tucson know just how important USS Tucson is to us," said the mayor.

"Those of us who have been in the military understand the importance of showing support and letting them (the Sailors) know how proud we are of their service."

After speaking at the change of command ceremony and attending some crew functions, including a luau, the mayor and his wife feel a great sense of pride and responsibility.

"We were so fortunate to meet these young Sailors who have taken on such a great responsibility and their families who are so supportive. It is unbelievable to see a group of such responsible, intelligent and happy people," said Beth Walkup.

"They know the risks involved and they take the time out of their lives to protect our nation's freedom."

"I feel such a solid sense of the word, team," said the mayor. "We've had a chance to achieve faith in the officers and crew. They really care for each other and help out one another. It is a community like none other."

After the victorious game, some of the crew sat and talked with the mayor concerning the complexity of the attack submarine. Walkup, an engineer, was impressed.

"The design that went into this ship to make it such a functional piece of equipment is mind bog-

gling," said Walkup. "But the makeup of the crew is even more impressive."

The mayor and his wife hoped to gain a few things from their visit.

"In Tucson, we don't really think about the ocean or water or submarines too often. I hope there will be an outcome of recommitment of support from our city."

"I want more people to become members of the support group and become more involved with the crew on a personal level," said Beth. "The crew needs our support."

More than 70 members of the USS Tucson support club showed up in Hawaii for the change of command ceremony. The mayor and his wife helped the crew know their importance.

"It is great that they came all the way out here for us. That means so much to know the city is supportive," said Torpedoman 2nd Class(SS) Timothy Metzger.

JMAST keeps communication flowing during Northern Edge 2001

By Lt. Cmdr. Ray Massey
JMAST PUBLIC AFFAIRS

KETCHIKAN, Alaska – Communication is critical in every training exercise. Usually, it's the first piece to go up and the last to shut down.

The excitement of Northern Edge 2001 may depend on live fire exercises, search and rescue missions, and explosive ordnance disposal, but to accomplish any of this, communications must be in place.

Sixteen people, providing telecommunications services, alone, are making sure the missions of more than 1,400 Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and Canadian Navy, active and reserve, remain intact here.

The Navy Joint Mobile

Ashore Support Terminal (Pacific) (JMAST), Honolulu, Hawaii, and Green Bay, Wis., are working together to ensure super high frequency capability is available to the White Cell throughout the exercise.

JMAST couldn't bring all of their equipment to Northern Edge. They have another shelter called a triple-wide. Due to the mission and the amount of equipment allotted on the aircraft, the triple-wide was left behind.

Information Technology Chief Dean Roloff, JMAST, Honolulu, Hawaii, said their system capabilities appear small, but can perform many different missions.

"For a small shelter, it packs a big punch," the Janesville, Wis., native said. "We are providing commu-

cation for the exercise control cell, who manages the overall exercise."

Normal telephones receive 56k. JMAST is kicking out 768k. The unclassified Internet line, or niprnet, is running at 128k, while the classified Internet line, or siprnet, runs at 256k.

JMAST also has video teleconferencing capabilities, although they haven't been used. Information System Technician 1st Class Pamela Peters, JMAST, Honolulu, Hawaii, said without their resources, information would not have gotten to Alaskan Command.

"We weren't intercepted, but if we were, we'd be prepared to combat it," the Bell Buckle, Tenn., native said. "As long as my niprnet and siprnet stays up, all is well."



CW04 Jay Lorenz photo
Members of JMAST set up their communications unit in Ketchikan, Alaska, in support of exercise Northern Edge 2001. The unit provided all super high frequency communications for the exercise control group that coordinated the maritime portion of the exercise.